

The Watchman and Southron.

THE SUMTER WATCHMAN, Established April, 1850.

"Be Just and Fear Not—Let all the ends Thou Aims't at be thy Country's, Thy God's and Truth's."

THE TRUE SOUTHRON, Established June 1, 1866.

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Sumter, S. C., Wednesday, March 8, 1922

LEGISLATURE IS NEARING ADJOURNMENT

House Takes Recess Until Tuesday to Permit Senate to Catch Up

Columbia, March 3.—The house of representatives adjourned today to meet Tuesday night. There is little left for the house to do until the senate passes the appropriation bill. A resolution adopted by the senate to adjourn sine die next Saturday before midnight, was objected to in the house and went over for consideration until next week. Only local matters were considered in the house today.

Columbia, March 3.—The senate Thursday night passed and sent to the house for concurrence in some amendments to the bill, passed by the house last year, to increase the powers of the public service commission, so as to give this commission authority to regulate both rates and service of public service companies, and to include all utilities within the scope of the commission's jurisdiction. The bill was introduced in the house last year by Representative, now speaker, J. B. Atkinson, of Spartanburg.

This bill is in line with the new railroad commission bill, now awaiting the governor's signature, and enlarging the commission to seven members and giving it also the work of the public utilities commission.

The new railroad commission bill was amended in free conference so as to give the commission authority to regulate rates and service of all utilities, municipal as well as corporation owned. In the senate Thursday an effort was made by some of the senators to recall the act from the governor's office, stating that the amendments had passed without their knowledge. There was opposition to request the governor to send the act back, the senators in opposition stating that the other senators should not have "gone to sleep." It is not likely, however, now that the recall resolution will be voted on, due to the senate's action in passing the utilities bill.

In the debate Thursday night Senator Atkinson, of Darlington, spoke for two hours.

A lot of debate between Representatives Amick and Barre, of Lexington Thursday night in the house featured the consideration of two bills aimed at abolition of the rural police system in Lexington county, one to repeal the rural police act, the other to put up to the people the question of the abolition of the system. Mr. O'Rourke, of Charleston took a hand in the debate, asking many questions and charging that the rural police system in every county was rotten. Mr. Barre represented the proponents of the rural police system in Lexington and Mr. Amick spoke for the opponents. Both bills were introduced by Mr. Amick, but both were lost.

Columbia, March 3.—The house and means committee of the House has introduced a bill to authorize the state penitentiary to pledge its cotton to the South Carolina Co-operative Marketing association.

Representative Jackson, of Sumter, is sponsor of the bill on behalf of the committee.

SAFE IN LOUISIANA

Gov. Parker Refuses Requisition For Stock Salesman

Baton Rouge, La., March 3.—Governor Parker today refused to honor the requisition of the Governor of South Carolina for the return to that state of J. H. Covington, one of the officials of the Union Pipe Line and Refining Company, of Shreveport, La., on the charge of violating the "blue sky" law at Anderson, S. C.

Mr. Covington was charged with selling 350 shares of stock for \$3,500 to S. M. Byers, and W. J. King, of Anderson.

Replying to the charges in an affidavit, Mr. Covington declared that they were brought because he refused to buy back the stock at a tremendous profit to the owners.

Governor Parker said in view of that fact and satisfied the transaction occurred in Shreveport and not in South Carolina and inasmuch as the stock was the personal property of Mr. Covington and not company treasury stock, he would not honor the requisition.

TRADING IN STOCKS REVIVE

Business Was Exceptionally Good This Week at New York Exchange

Norfolk, March 4.—Three persons were burned to death and two overcome by smoke in a fire in a three story boarding house here. The dead are Helen White, South Norfolk, Lem McKensley, Cranford, and R. M. Hyatt, seaman of the U. S. S. Orion. Several were also rescued by fireman.

TREMENDOUS DECREASE IN FERTILIZERS

Sales For Past Seven Months Seventy Per Cent Less Than For Period Two Years Ago

New Orleans, March 4.—New Orleans cotton exchange figures show a decrease in fertilizer sales during the seven months ending with February of sixteen per cent compared with the same period a year ago and a decrease of seventy per cent compared with sales two years ago.

ENGSTRUM BID FOR MUSCLE SHOALS

Former Senator Butler of North Carolina Explains Proposal to Senate Committee

Washington, March 3 (By the Associated Press).—George W. Goethals, former major general in the army and builder of the Panama canal, will take personal charge of the development of the government-made projects at Muscle Shoals in the event the offer of Frederick E. Engstrum of North Carolina, ship builder and engineer, for lease and completion of the Alabama properties is accepted by congress, it was announced today.

Mr. Goethals already has agreed, it was added, to accept the task of completing the great dam at Muscle Shoals, and other projects for Mr. Engstrum.

The announcement of the agreement between Mr. Engstrum and Mr. Goethals was made by Marion Butler, former senator from North Carolina, in testimony given the house military committee on the proposal which was under consideration as a competitor to that submitted by Henry Ford and the Alabama Power company.

The committee devoted both sessions today to an investigation of the Engstrum offer, receiving Mr. Engstrum first for a brief introduction of his bid and later examining Mr. Butler who appeared as legal adviser for the North Carolina.

Mr. Butler said nitrate and fertilizer production, viewed in the sense of their relation to the national defense, was the prime object of the offer he spoke for, although hydro-electric development would not be neglected.

While the former senator did not refer to the Ford offer by name he argued strongly against congressional action which would permit the principal water power project of the South to be controlled by a private concern.

Nitrate and fertilizer production of the shoals, Mr. Butler said, permitting cheap soil foods for the farmers and reduced prices for foodstuffs for the consumers.

In reply to questions by Representative Stoll of South Carolina, Mr. Butler said the corporation to be created under the Engstrum plan would "capitalize itself" until it got to be a "going concern" and was willing to offer a surety bond of any size the government suggested to assure the proper execution of the offer. Both Mr. Butler and Mr. Engstrum would be directors of the corporation, it was stated, in addition to two others who would be designated by the secretaries of war and agriculture.

The witness said the remaining three directors would not be named at the present time, although he denied that James B. Duke, of North Carolina was associated either directly or indirectly with the corporation. Reports that Mr. Duke was allied with Mr. Engstrum were emphatically denied.

The only financial consideration the proposed corporation would receive in return for its work of developing the properties, it was explained, would be from the sale of power not required to operate the nitrate plants, from the sale of fertilizers and nitrates, and the 5 per cent fee it would receive from the government on the cost of completing the Wilson dam and other construction jobs.

Mr. Butler showed that all overhead expenses, including the employment of engineers and other operating costs, would be paid by the corporation out of the 5 per cent fee and would not be charged against the government as part of the construction costs.

It was Chairman Kahn's opinion that it would require the committee at least a week, working in executive sessions continually, to draft a report to the house on the Muscle Shoals question.

HOT TIMES IN ARGENTINA

Buenos Aires, March 4.—The senate and assembly of Tucuman have been held prisoners for over twenty-four hours by order of the senate president to force an election of a federal senator. The building is surrounded by firemen and armed civilians and the latest dispatches say pistol fighting is going on inside.

BRITISH POLITICS UNSETTLED

Chamberlain's Pledge of Solid Cabinet Support of Premier Does Not Relieve Uneasiness in Government Circles

London, March 4.—Austen Chamberlain's declaration of the solidity of the cabinet behind Lloyd George had little appreciable effect on the situation which threatens to bring about the resignation of Premier Lloyd George in the opinion of the majority of the political writers in today's papers.

CABINET CRISIS POSTPONED

Lloyd George's Threat to Retire From Office

London, March 4.—(By the Associated Press).—Premier Lloyd George's threat to resign has been suspended at the urgent solicitation of his Unionist colleagues in the cabinet, according to an authoritative statement tonight but no justification for its withdrawal is said to exist as yet.

Official denial is made that any exact time limit has been fixed for receiving assurance of loyalty to the premier from the adherents of Sir George Younger, the Unionist leader, although it is added that obviously the tension can not be extended indefinitely.

Meanwhile there is no indication of any move on the part of the Unionist party to depose Younger as its head. No meeting of the whole Unionist party has been called, and the general opinion is that the only happening will be that the Unionist ministers in the cabinet—Arthur J. Balfour and Austen Chamberlain—may publicly approve Younger for his tactics as Lord Birkenhead already has done.

Speaking at Oxford today, Austen Chamberlain announced that Unionist ministers had unanimously requested the premier to continue as head of the government.

Not the slightest repugnance has yet been shown by the "die hard" Conservatives whose opposition to the leadership of the premier is primarily responsible for the present crisis. They are cooperating with the Liberals in the house of commons in putting up a stiff fight against the Free State bill by presenting amendment after amendment.

Sir Lansing Worthington-Evans, secretary for war, in a speech at Colchester tonight revealed that the premier lately offered to retire from the government and support it in carrying out its Irish program, but all the Conservative members of the government assured him of their support and begged that he continue.

In the endless speculation about the crisis there is much insistence on the view that Mr. Lloyd George has arrived at a point in his political career where he must define whether his future path will lead toward Liberalism or Conservatism.

Since he became leader of the coalition under the abnormal circumstances of war requiring a national, not party, policy, his political coloring has been in abeyance. If the coalition now disappears it is argued he must elect to attach himself to one party or the other.

According to some belief his present action is a bid for leadership of the Unionist party, and that if this fails there are two alternatives before him, first to form a new Unionist party and second, to try to go back to leadership of the Liberal or Liberal-Labor party.

Oxford, England, March 3 (By the Associated Press).—Austen Chamberlain, government leader in the house of commons, in an address here this evening announced that after consulting his colleagues in the cabinet he had given Prime Minister Lloyd George a unanimous reply that they considered it necessary in the national interest that the premier should continue to carry on the government.

CHALLENGES MONEY POWER IN MICHIGAN

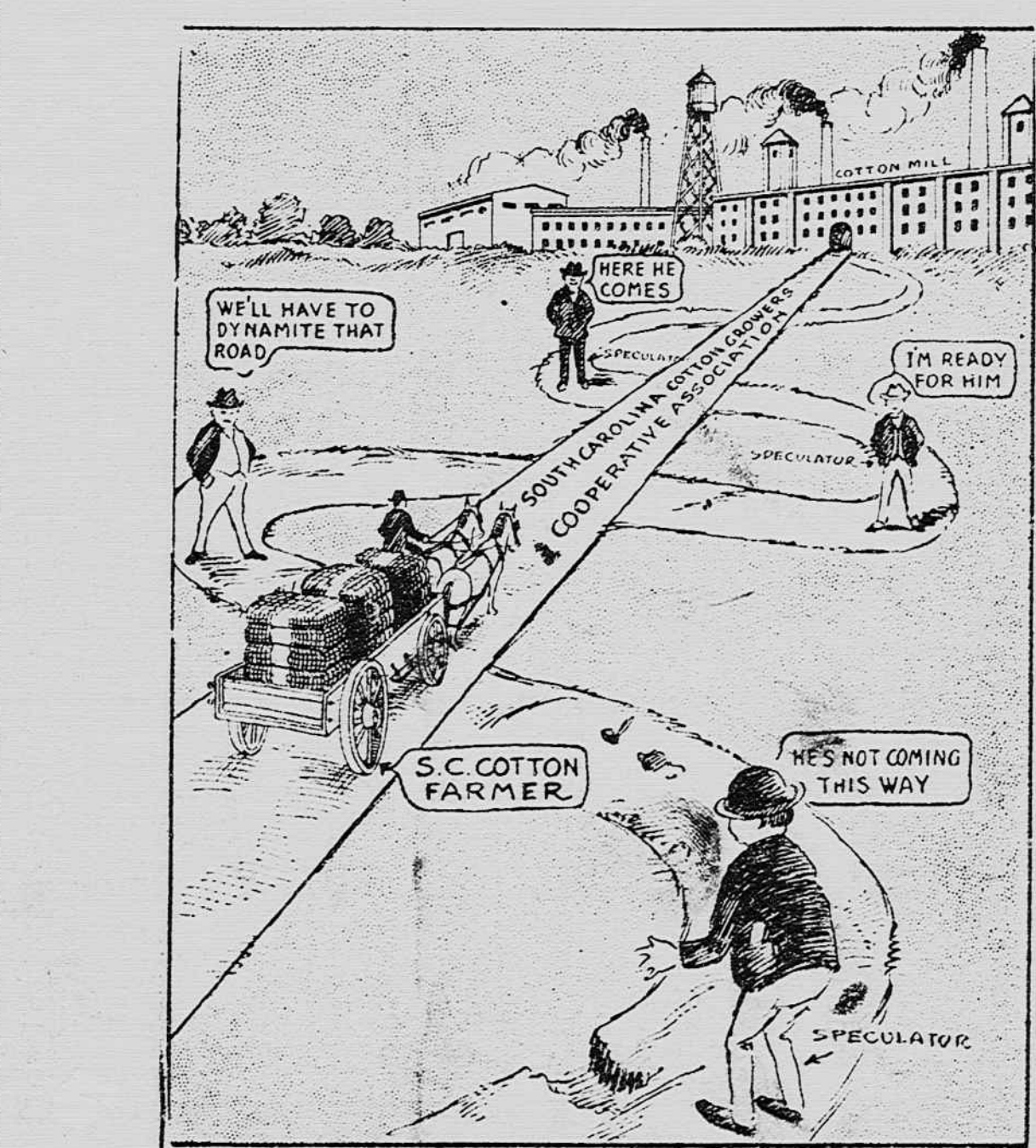
Representative Kelly Announces Candidacy For the Senate

Washington, March 4.—Declaring "it is vital to Michigan that money shall not be the determining factor" in the forthcoming election, Representative Patrick H. Kelly announced that he would be a candidate for the senate, seeking the seat now held by Senator Townsend.

The man with money to burn has a hot time.

Fine motto: Watch your step, but don't look down to do it.

Landis is suggested as mayor of Chicago. Since he will give all his time to baseball, he is qualified.



ONE YEAR OF REPUBLICAN LEGISLATION

Present Congress Has Been at Work 12 Months and Has Accomplished Little Good

By WALLACE BASSFORD (Special News Correspondent)

Washington, March 4.—The Sixty-seventh congress is just completing the first year of its term. It has but twelve more months of existence; if its latter half leaves no better impression on the country than its first, then certain it is that it will go down in history as one of the big disappointments, disheartening to its closest friends and even to its own membership.

Few, if any, attempts to defend a congress that has become the butt of the jokesmiths on the stage and in the funny papers. Its efforts—if they can be called such—to relieve the distress of the country might become tragic if it were not for the saving sense of humor possessed by the American people.

Everyone laughs when Abe Martin says that business is picking up—and ten cent store as saying he has sold more checker-boards in the last year than during all of Wilson's administration. And the Washington theatre rings with applause when Will Rogers, the comedian, tells of the recent fire on the roof of the treasury—how it stopped when it had burned down to where the money was, as the administration had beat the fire to it. Every test of public opinion shows that congress has made itself intensely unpopular. If anyone had prophesied this outcome when Harding and the big Republican majority in congress came to a year ago he would have been treated to a succession of delays and party splits on important matters, with increasing bewilderment and helplessness. Every Republican in congress seems to be a party unto himself, with an exception of a few clear-headed men like Jim Mann—who might bring some order out of this chaos had his ungrateful party given him the place he had won, the speakership, but it went to one who admits his own utter inability and that of his party.

And yet, every cloud is said to have its silver lining, and we can reflect with joy that this congress has only twelve months more to live.

Still fiddling with the tariff, the two committees in charge of such legislation in house and senate send acrimonious messages back and forth to catch other while business rattles its thumb and waits, not even being able to guess what to do in the circumstances. The store shelves remain unfilled, the factories idle, the ships motionless. These coming the enactment of a sales tax.

Big business seeks, through Harding's recent action, to bring the sales tax into use first on the plea that it is necessary to pay the bonus—that for the entering wedge. Their hope and intention is that it shall be made, within a few years to take the place of all income and corporation taxes. This has been expressed in the Wall Street Journal and the New York Tribune repeatedly.

The Shipping Board is paying \$9,000 per year to one Matthew B. Claussen as advertising manager. This is the same man who had

MILITIA ON GUARD AT PROVIDENCE

Authorities Anticipate Clash With Strikers in Rhode Island Textile District

Providence, R. I., March 6.—Heavy forces of the National Guard and coast artillerymen guarded the Hope Company's plant at Hope today in expectation that textile strikers would picket the plant with strikers from other mills against the orders of the authorities. The expected test of the picketing regulations, however, was not made.

BLACKSTONE MILLS ARE PICKETED

Providence, R. I., March 6.—Blackstone valley mills were picketed today, due to rumors of an attempt to resume work after the close down of two weeks. The situation is unchanged.

wonder what sort of bargain the Movie Trust got when it agreed to pay Hays \$150,000 per year as a sort of field marshal. Mann said in the course of a debate: "He has not been worth a five-cent piece since he has been postmaster general. He does not know anything about the postoffice department; and, for one, I am mighty glad he is getting out of it. His only object has been to be extravagant in his own personal relations with the government. Long-distance telephoning is his main long suit."

The bonus question, like the coffin of Abraham, remains suspended between heaven and earth. When Harding asked congress to adopt bonus legislation and to provide a sales tax to pay the bill, he knew the agricultural conference which had just been held in Washington passed a resolution saying: "We positively and earnestly protest against any consumption, or sales, or manufacturers' tax, or any other tax which shifts the burden onto those least able to pay, onto the necessities of life. It has proved disappointing financially and unjust socially wherever tried." That resolution passed unanimously in a far conference which Harding called, then within less than three weeks he asked congress to pass a sales tax. Why? Two reasons: he knew the farm bloc was against the tax and that labor was emphatically on record against it, and he could tell the American Legion he was for the bonus but that he was blocked by this opposition; further, everyone about the capital knows that ever since it became apparent that Harding was to be elected the Wall Street district has flooded congress with letters and arguments of every sort, directly and through the great New York newspapers, under control of the financial interests, urging the enactment of a sales tax.

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charge of the advertising propaganda for Germany after the war began in Europe. Dr. Albert and Von Bernstorff. Great pity the man who sunk the Lusitania can't be found—the president might find a fat job for him.

London, March 6.—The world will know within forty-eight hours definitely whether Lloyd George, the prime minister, will resign. Experts are diametrically opposed in opinion how the crisis stood as the result of the week-end conferences.

Amarrillo, Texas, March 6.—Rev. J. G. Keller, a catholic priest at Slaton was seized by masked men Saturday night and beaten and tarred and feathered. It is claimed today that the incident was the outgrowth of sentiment against him during the war on account of pro-German accusations.

"Kills have been worn since 1626"—news item. Ah, the thrifty Scotsman.

Movie pipe organs have about 300 steps, but seldom do.

NO FINAL VOTE ON FOSTER BILL

Senate Adjourns Until 8 O'clock Monday Night—Fight Against Recalling R. R. Commission Act is Abandoned

Columbia, March 3.—Just before the senate adjourned at 11:10 o'clock to meet again at 8 o'clock Monday night, debate on the Foster telephone rate bill which has raged throughout the day, was continued until Tuesday morning without a final vote being taken on the measure.

Practically the whole legislative day of the senate was taken up with the Foster bill requiring the Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company to decrease its rates to the level obtaining before January 1, 1921, when the present increase authorized by the state railroad commission went into effect.

Early this morning it was indicated that the bill would pass when the senate, by a vote of 23 to 13, refused to strike out the enacting words. Various amendments were offered by Senator Miller, who led the fight for the bill, the most important of which was that to reestablish the free exchange radius or that allowing exchanges without charge between exchanges situated within thirty miles of each other. This amendment had not been brought to a vote at a late hour tonight.

The senate finance committee announced tonight that it would work on the general appropriation bill tomorrow and have it ready for introduction to the senate by Monday night.

The bill providing for a tax of one-third of a mill on each kilowatt hour of hydro-electric power manufactured in this state was advanced to third reading with notice of general amendments and debate on third reading.

The fight against the consolidated railroad commission bill to get it back into the senate so that it could reconsider its concurrent in the section providing supervisory powers over rates and service of public utilities has been abandoned. The amendments to the public service last night exempting existing service contracts and municipalities removed much of the objection to the railroad commission amendment.

The senate tonight advanced to third reading the Cooper bill, providing for amortization of bonds and other securities held by insurance companies and the ways and means committee, said while there probably would be some opposition from the Democratic side, it was his opinion that a majority of the Democrats would support the amended bill. He thought the loan feature would tend to extend credits to the extent of half a billion dollars and thus result in some increase in the cost of living during the expansion period.

At the treasury department the compromise was described by high officials as "the lesser of two evils." It was indicated that Secretary Mellon still was opposed to the enactment of any bonus legislation at this time which would cause a serious drain on the treasury but officials said this plan would make the financing much less difficult than would have been the case under the original cash plan.

CEMETERY DRIVE BEING CLAYED

Trustees of Sumter Cemetery Association Hold Meeting

A meeting of the trustees of the Sumter Cemetery Association was held on Thursday afternoon at which time the committee on improvements of the cemetery reported that they had made a contract with parties, subject to the approval of the trustees, for the laying of the drives in the cemetery on a basis of 16 2-3 cents per square yard, drive to be paved 12 feet wide. The trustees approved of this and authorized the execution of the contract. Other matters of importance looking to the improvement of conditions at the cemetery were discussed but it was thought best before acting on these to get a representative meeting of the lot owners of the association. Such a meeting has been ordered called on Thursday afternoon at 4 o'clock, the meeting to be held in the assembly hall of the Y. M. C. A. It is earnestly hoped that as many lot owners as possible will find an opportunity to attend this meeting. All ladies interested in improving and beautifying the cemetery are especially invited to attend the meeting. The officers and trustees of the association feel that this is a most opportune time to make the improvements due to the low cost of materials and of labor.

The work of the claying of the cemetery drives is in charge of Mr. G. C. Sugg, contractor, of Wilson, S. C., and is progressing very nicely. The first drives being clayed are those in the western part of the cemetery. Clay is being dug from a pit in this section which will later be filled with the sand removed from the roads.

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BONUS TO BE PAID WITH DUE BILLS

Scheme Framed by Republicans to Satisfy Bonus Hunters and Increase Public Debt

Washington, March 2.—A compromise soldiers' bonus plan under which the cash feature would be eliminated where the former service men would be entitled to more than \$50 adjusted service pay was agreed upon today tentatively but unanimously by a special committee of the Republican members of the house ways and means committee. In the nature of a substitute for the discarded cash feature there would be added to the adjusted service certificate a provision which would enable the men selecting the certificate option to obtain immediately from banks a loan equal to one-half of the adjusted service pay to which they would be entitled on the basis of a \$1 a day for domestic service and \$1.25 a day for overseas service.

In announcing the compromise agreement Chairman Fordney said it probably would be a week before all details of the loan provision could be worked out and the original bill amended to conform to it. He expressed the opinion that the plan would be so well received by house members generally that it would be unnecessary to submit the new bill to a party conference thus speeding up the time of its submission to the house.

Chairman Fordney and other committee members said they believed the new plan would meet with general favor in and out of congress, for three reasons, which were summarized as follows in formal statement issued by Representative Green, of Iowa, ranking Republican on the committee.

"1. The needy veteran can obtain money as soon as his certificate is issued and in greater amount than is provided by the cash plan of the original bill.

"2. No large drafts to be made on the treasury until the expiration of three years.

"3. No new taxes required."

Word went around among house members that the compromise plan was acceptable both to President Harding and to the officers of the American Legion and late in the day after there had been informal exchanges of views among members it was said that apparently a strong sentiment in favor of the new proposal was developing. Representative Garner of Texas, the ranking Democrat on the ways and means committee, said while there probably would be some opposition from the Democratic side, it was his opinion that a majority of the Democrats would support the amended bill. He thought the loan feature would tend to extend credits to the extent of half a billion dollars and thus result in some increase in the cost of living during the expansion period.

At the treasury department the compromise was described by high officials as "the lesser of two evils." It was indicated that Secretary Mellon still was opposed to the enactment of any bonus legislation at this time which would cause a serious drain on the treasury but officials said this plan would make the financing much less difficult than would have been the case under the original cash plan.

FOURTEEN KILLED AT CROSSING

New York Central Express Train Crashes Into Auto. Bus

Cleveland, March 4.—The death of another victim brought the toll from the collision of the New York Central express train with an automobile at Painesville to fourteen killed and five injured, three of whom are expected to die. The coroner's inquest will be held today. Many of those killed were returning from a dance. The train was running sixty miles an hour.

MUSCLE SHOALS COMMISSION

Congressman Kohn Advocates Committee to Straighten Out Tangle

Washington, March 4.—The creation of a national commission empowered by congress to straighten out government tangles regarding the Muscle Shoals project and enter negotiations for the sale or lease of property was advocated by Congressman Kohn of the house military committee. The commission will consist of secretaries of war, agriculture and the treasury.

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